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GENEALOGY COLLECTION



FAMILY HISTORY

Swearingen-Blanchard and their
Descendants

by

Frank Blanchard
Albion, Iowa

c.1962



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FAMILY HISTORY

(Swearingen, Blanchard and their Descendants)

By Frank Blanchard, 1962

The Swearingen name was first known in the German Province of Bavaria. Some of the family may have made their way down the Rhine River and helped the Dutch with their dike building. The first definite information is found in the Archives of New York City, Volume X. Garret Van Swearingen, born in Beemsterdam, Holland, 1636, was working for the Dutch West Indies Company in 1656. A group of Italians, driven from their homes because of religious persecution, arrived in Holland. They found that little country very crowded. They, therefore, boarded a West Indies ship, The Prince Maurice, with Garret Van Swearingen in charge of the cargo. In December, 1656, they sailed for America in the company of two smaller ships (The Bear and The Flower).

The Prince Maurice was wrecked on Fire Island, off the coast of Long Island. A Shennook Indian carried the news to the Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam (now called New York City). These people helped the wrecked folks to the south Dutch colony on the Delaware River, Fort Cassimer (later New Castle).

Sweden also claimed this territory, but the English settled the argument by taking the entire coast line in 1664. The Swedes, coming from a cold climate and many forests, were skilled wood workers. They brought to America the log cabin. The first settlers in Virginia and Massachusetts patterned their first houses after the Indians. A row of posts were set with limbs woven between the posts for walls.

This was called wattling, and they had a wattled cabin. The log cabin was an improvement and this idea was carried westward until it met up with the sod house of the western plains.

At New Castle Garret Van Swearingen was elected sheriff. It was his duty to put erring husbands in the stocks and pillory; also he placed shrewish, nagging wives in the ducking chair. They were splashed in the village pond. But after the English captured the region, Garret moved to St. Marys, Maryland, which was then the capital. Garret married Barbara De Barrets from Valenciennes, France in 1659. The people from that section of France were skilled textile workers. Wool was imported from England and they used it with their linens and laces. Garret and Barbara and her family received their English naturalization papers. Two sons and one daughter were born to this couple, sons Zacharias and Tom and daughter Elizabeth. It is from son Tom that we descend. After Barbara's death Garret married Mary Smith and this wife gave him other children. Two of these sons are mentioned in his will, Joseph and Charles.

Tom, son of Garret and Barbara, through whom we trace our family line, was born at St. Marys, Maryland, 1665. He married Jane Dayne. He died in 1710. A son, Van, of these two, born 1692 at St. Marys, moved to Washington County, Maryland and married Elizabeth Walker. The land he occupied was near Hagerstown, Maryland and conflicting titles with the Ringgold Manor kept him a renter for many years. It seems that the King of England issued a royal charter for Maryland to Lord Calvert. He in turn granted large tracts of land called manors. George Talbot was given 32,000 acres for bringing 100 Irish colonists to America in 1680. The owner of the manor was allowed to collect

taxes, hold leet court, and assess fines.

Van and several of his sons were active in the French and Indian War. Two daughters, Ruth and Druscilla, married brothers, Tom Jr. and Daniel Cresap, sons of Tom Cresap. Much has been written of this Cresap family. Their history and family gatherings were carried along for a century. At one reunion intermarriages were accented with the Swearingen story. Tom Cresap made and lost several fortunes in the fur trade. One storehouse full of furs was burned, one shipload of furs was lost at sea. Tom Cresap was a close competitor of the Hagers, who founded Hagerstown at the crossing of two Indian trails.

Van and Elizabeth had a large family, but it is from son John that we continue our story. John was born in Maryland about 1721. He married Catherine Stull in 1745. They made their home near the Potomac River.

John was commissioned an ensign in the troops of General Braddock and General Washington when they proceeded against the French and Indians in the Ohio territory. On the upper reaches of the Potomac River, Mills Creek cuts a gap through the mountains toward Snow Creek, a tributary of the Monongahela, and on to the Ohio River. A road was cut along this route and Braddock proceeded to his defeat and to his death.

John Swearingen liked the looks of this new country and within a few years he moved his family and possessions. Besides livestock he had about a dozen slaves. He secured a thousand acres of land near Cheat River in southwest Pennsylvania. At that time Virginia claimed far beyond this point. Washington's Fort Necessity and Braddock's grave are located close by. In 1957 Ruth Blanchard Knudson and family

visited these historic sites. They took pictures of nearby fields once owned by this ancestor, John Swearingen. Some members of the Daughters of the American Revolution rest their membership on this John Swearingen.

On the Cheat River John built a fort large enough to shelter the community during the Indian raids. He was elected to the Commission of Observation and Safety. These commissions were a part of every community throughout the thirteen colonies. One of his sons was commissioned a lieutenant in the state militia and sent against the Indians at Sandusky, Ohio. Two other sons were captured by the Indians. The older of these two bargained with the Shawnee Indians. He promised to remain with them if the younger brother would be returned home. The Indians sent the younger one home with a peace pipe to be given to the parents. (This peace pipe was handed down through the descendants. It is now in the possession of Decia Swearingen Wilson, Marshalltown, Iowa.)

The older boy was named Marmaduke. At the time of his capture he was wearing a homespun blue jacket. Forever afterwards he was known as Blue Jacket, becoming Chief Blue Jacket later. (The hand loom which wove the cloth was set up in Razortown, 1779, taken to Ohio, then Kentucky, and finally placed in the Kansas Historical Museum by Mrs. Howard B. Chamberlain, St. George, Kansas. Mrs. Hester Kelley, Belevue, Kansas, great granddaughter of Sarah Swearingen, gave a piece of blue cloth, woven on the same loom, to the Kansas Historical Society.)

Blue Jacket married a white girl, Margaret Moore, who had been captured by the Indians. Later a treaty declared that all captives, held by the Indians, must be returned. This Margaret Moore Blue Jacket returned to her family in Virginia but she left her son, Joseph, with

his father. Very soon after her return she gave birth to a daughter. (In time this daughter married and secured land in Ohio through the help of her father, Blue Jacket.)

The second wife of Blue Jacket was from a French father and an Indian mother. (A William Caldwell married a sister of the second Mrs. Blue Jacket, and his son, Billy Caldwell Jr. was well known in early Chicago history.) A son of Blue Jacket by his second wife was known as James or Jim. He became a close friend of Tecumseh and was close by when the latter was killed in the War of 1812. Jim had a son, Charles. Charles received an education and became a Methodist minister at the time the Shawnees along with other tribes were sent to Kansas and Oklahoma. There is a small town in northeast Oklahoma named Blue Jacket. (In december, 1958, Frank Blanchard, his wife May, and daughter Ruth visited this area. In a glass cafe over the Will Rogers' Turnpike is a chef by the name of Blue Jacket.) Chief Blue Jacket died in 1832 at the age of 73. He was buried near the Auglaise, a small stream that flows into the Maumee River in northwest Ohio.

The story of John and Catherine continues. Living conditions on the frontier in western Pennsylvania were far different from plantation life in Maryland and Virginia. Some families lived by hunting and trapping. Others cleared the forest from the land and raised their own food. From the ashes of the burned trees potash was obtained for powder, lye for soap and also alum. A bushel of alum was considered worth a cow and calf. At first their produce was carried through the mountains on pack horses to eastern markets. Soon flatboats were made from their forests and products were sent down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to feed the southern plantation workers. Bringing African

slaves to southern plantations was big business. Ships were designed and built especially for that trade. Extra decks were placed down through the hold about four feet apart. When these ships appeared off the coast of Africa, Chieftains would take their captives to the water's edge for trade. The slaves were laid flat on the various decks and chained in that position for the trip to America. It was expected that one out of four would die before the end of the trip.

Few families in western Pennsylvania held slaves. The farms were scattered; yet the people did come together for a bit of social life. They had their husking bees, quilting and sewing bees. When a young couple considered marriage, the community gathered. They felled enough trees for a new cabin and remained for the wedding. The people had given up the established state religion where a tax of forty pounds tobacco was enforced to aid the church. The emotional Methodist camp meetings appealed to these western people. Families would travel long distances and camp for days on the banks of the Ohio River. Most of the sermons contained considerable hell fire and brimstone. Some of the rugged circuit riders, in reaching the climax of their sermon, would cry, "Look, Sinner, look while I hold open the hatch of hell."

John and Catherine had twelve children. We follow from Tom, one of the youngest. Soon after the Revolutionary War, Catherine received title, in her own name, to a section of land. John Swearingen died in 1784. We know little of his son Tom except that he was born about 1775, had eight children and was the first of the family that went down the Ohio River to Adams County, Ohio.

A married son of Tom whose name was John followed his father a few years later. John had married Nancy Luellen. John was born 1802.

His wife came from a Welch family. John and Nancy raised a large family. Their daughters were Rebecca, Druscilla, Minerva, Sarah, and Nancy. The sons were John, Andrew, Benjamin, and Thomas. The families were still in southwest Pennsylvania when Thomas was born in 1826. About 1833 the family moved on to Ohio. Thomas or Tom grew up near Uniontown, Ohio. He received a subscription school education. He also found various ways of adding to his income outside of the homestead. There were no railroads, no packing houses. By local custom, each fall the neighborhood hogs were brought together, and a responsible man was hired to drive them through the woods to the Ohio River where they were put on a flatboat and sent south. Tom worked as a driver for several seasons.

Tom Swearingen and Amanda Dunlap eloped in 1853. They started farming and raised one crop in Illinois. That fall Tom and three other men journeyed to Iowa by means of a team and light wagon. At the junction of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers they found a fort and a few cabins. They traveled north through Story and Hardin Counties, then turned south into Marshall County. At the little town of Albion they met a man named Reid who was from their home region of Ohio. He urged them to spend the night with him. The next day Tom visited a well improved farm one-half mile to the west. The fields were fenced with rails. There was a large orchard and good buildings. Tom carried gold in a belt around his waist and he was, therefore, prepared to close a deal with the owner, Judge Hobbs. The Hobbs and Swearingen families spent the winter of 1855 in the same house.

Prices for farm products soared during the Civil War. Four hundred acres out on the open prairie was also bought. A herd of cows

was kept for growing calves on the 600 acres along the river. As these calves matured they were moved to the 400 acres for heavy corn feeding. Labor was more plentiful when the Civil War ended. Tom built a large new barn. Trees were felled, logs were hewn square and pinned together with wooden pins. The entire countryside gathered for the barn raising. A crew with pike poles was chosen for each side of the building. With the cry of "Heave oh heave" each team tried to get their side in position first. A man ran out on the beam and used wooden pins to fasten the frames together. Along the side of the yard large iron kettles hung over fires where the women of the community had been cooking dinner.

Six daughters and three sons were born to Amanda and Tom S. A large house was built about 1875. In 1876 Tom attended the funeral of his father in Ohio and went on to the World's Fair in Philadelphia. In making his will John Swearingen said, "Tom has prospered in Iowa and does not need a share. However he ehlped me when he was young and I am determined that he receive the same as the others."

Soon after the large house was built the young folks commenced to leave home. Alice married a dentist in Marshalltown. Later when she returned on visits, the basement was strange to her two little boys. There was a dining room, kitchen, vegetable room, and a milk room in the basement. Milk from six to ten cows was strained into gallon crocks and set on the floor made of flagstones. After two days a heavy coating of cream was skimmed off and put in the hand turned churn. The little boys still had five aunts. So after a visit and watching all the activity taking place in the basement, they bragged to their playmates that they had a whole cellar full of "Aunts".

Sometimes there was skating on the small stream west of the barn. Other times there was coasting. If the children did not have sleds, they just set their sitters in big pans and scooted from the kitchen door, out through the gate, into the big barn yard. The barns and bins made good places for Hide and Seek.

In the earliest days of Marshall County, Albion, Marietta, and Marshalltown were about the same size. The latter two were feuding over the county seat. Albion was awarded the County High School. Marshalltown pledged \$10,000, Marietta \$5,000, and Albion \$5,000. Brick made one and one-half miles west of Albion was sun dried, and could be used only on the inner walls. Kiln dried brick was hauled from Marshall by team and wagon for the outer walls. All lumber used was walnut from timber along the Iowa River. Pledges were paid so slowly that the High School was declared bankrupt and sold at a sheriff's sale at the front door of the courthouse in Marietta. Thomas Swearingen purchased it and leased same to the Lutheran denomination to be operated as a Seminary. Later the Methodists carried on until the closing days of the 1890's.

Jessie was the next daughter to marry. She was teaching the little folks at the Seminary at the same time as George Blanchard. He taught Bookkeeping and penmanship. Some of the families deeply interested in supporting the Seminary would pay tuition for their younger children instead of sending them to tax supported school of eight grades located in the center of the town.

Jessie S. and George Blanchard were married in 1879. As a boy George had one of his eyes destroyed in a 4th of July accident. It seems that a group of boys wanted to start the 4th off with a big bang.

They pulled an old cannon to the Albion square. They poured in some powder and lit the fuse. There was no explosion. The boys lifted the entire powder jug. This caught a spark from the fuse and the jug blew up. A piece hit young George in the eye. The mothers were so mad that they pulled the old cannon to the edge of town and dumped it into a well. (Many years later a large earth moving machine was taking dirt from this place, reached the level of the well bottom, and uncovered the cannon.)

After George and Jessie were married they lived awhile in Davenport where he was a bookkeeper. But his one good eye bothered him and they started farming near Ida Grove, Iowa. Here two daughters, Gertrude and Anita, were born. At this time many families were obtaining title to land in Kansas and Nebraska through the Homestead Act. The Blanchards decided they too would try to homestead in central Nebraska. They traded their good bedroom furniture to her father in exchange for a team of horses. A few miles south of ~~Raleigh~~ ^{ROYAL} in Antelope County, Nebraska they obtained the usual 160 acres plus another 80 acres called the timber 80. This latter portion was acquired by setting out a certain number of young trees. There were blizzards, prairie fires, and droughts. A strip of ground around the buildings was kept plowed as a protection against prairie fires. Prairie chickens were so plentiful that the better parts were salted down in a barrel.

On Christmas morning, 1885, the two small daughters were locked in the upstairs room while a baby brother arrived in a first floor room. The family stayed the five years required to prove title but they lost three crops out of five. They came back to Albion where George edited a small newspaper called "The Plow and Pen".

The family home was on the street running along the north side of the park. Here daughter Myrle was born. On the corner next door was a large brick building used in stage coach days as a hotel. A village paper was not enough income to support a growing family so George and Jessie decided to separate. Jessie did fairly well as a practical nurse, as nearly all babies were born in the home in those days. It was scarcely a mile to the old home farm. Milk, butter, and many necessities were obtained there. As soon as "we kids" were big enough to pick up a milk stool we learned to pump milk from a cow. Acres of fruit were grown around Albion and we made two cents a quart in helping with the harvest of the fruit.

In 1898 several one room rural schools combined with the eight grade public school of Albion to start one of the first consolidated high schools in Iowa. Most of Jessie's children finished this school and went on to college. Anita, the second daughter, quit in the tenth grade to care for Uncle Ray Swearingen. Little was known concerning tuberculosis in that day. Anita went with her Grandfather to Pasadena, California to care for Ray S. and his sister Ellen who had married Frank Hearn. Ray, Ellen, her husband, and a son all died. Another son, Clarence, was raised by the Hearn family. While in California, Grandfather, or Tom Swearingen bought 14 acres out from Pasadena in what was open land. (Clarence Hearn now lives on part of this land. Close by is Santa Anita race track).

Upon the death of the Hearn family Anita took nurses training. She did nursing until her marriage to George Mochrl. For some years he worked in the Marshalltown Post Office. They returned to California and lived in Monrovia until their death. They had two daughters,

Wilma and Kathryn. Wilma died soon after her marriage. Kathryn married Robert Hunter. They live in Monrovia with their daughter Karen.

Gertrude, the eldest daughter, married Arthur Bennett. In the 1890's a number of Illinois farmers sold their land for a good price and bought cheaper land in Iowa. Art Bennett was one of these farmers. He and Gertie farmed near Albion awhile. A son, Allen, and a daughter, Irma, were born to them. The family moved to Toulon, Illinois. There Jessie, Clifford, Bernard, Roy, and Raymond were born.

Myrle, next to the youngest daughter, attended Business College in Marshalltown. She taught school in LeGrande, Iowa for a short time before her marriage to Harry W. Jennings. He was connected with the Marshalltown State Bank. To them were born Homer, Mary Louise, and Ray.

Lois, the youngest child, taught school and then made Social Welfare Work her life interest. She worked in Los Angeles for many years and now has her home in a suburb, LaVerne, there.

As for myself, Frank, I finished the Albion High School in 1904. Then after a few months at the State Normal School, Cedar Falls, I secured a teacher's certificate for teaching in the one room rural schools. Watching the children's minds expand was a wonderful experience, but being a "policeman" with eyes in the back of one's head was not for me. After two years at the Agricultural College, Ames, I started farming with Grandfather Swearingen. Grandmother S. passed away at that time. One day while at Ames I received a telephone call asking me to come to Marshalltown. There I met my father for the first time since I was six. He wanted me to truck garden with him in the Rio Grande Valley. Soon afterwards he was taken with a sun stroke and buried at Davenport.

Grandfather's 600 acres laid along the Iowa River. We kept large herds of cattle and hogs and sheep. Horses were used for field work, so we kept 12 or 15 of them. After working several years, I obtained half interest in this personal property. I married May Lesan, a teacher in the Albion school. A daughter, Ruth, was born to us in 1915. In 1919 we purchased a farm close by. We have lived on this place for forty some years. Our family now includes two grandsons and a granddaughter.

This story began with the coming of Garret Van Swearingen to America in 1656. The generations through the years have enjoyed the blessings of this wonderful land. It is my hope that members of the various generations see fit to add their bit as the years go by. I say farewell as my 77th birthday approaches, December, 1962.

Frank Blanchard

Albion, Iowa

STATE OF MARYLAND
HALL OF RECORDS
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

Liber 6, H, 1688-1700 of Wills, pages 210-211
WILL of Garrett Van Swearingen, 25th day of March, 1698

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN ----- I Garrett Van Swearingen of the city of St. Mary in St. Marys County having considered the many years I have lived in this world and therefore but a little time to remain and for reason of the uncertainty when this tyme shall be expired I do hereby Will and require that when it should be the Will of God to Call me out of this Mortall Life my body shall be buried if God doth permit according to the custom of the Roman Catholique Church and the Priest that shall bury me I do give him One Thousand pounds of tobacco and further I do require of my Executors hereafter hamed to take care that during the ensuing year Mass shall be done for me Holy at all the Lady Days, St. Joseph Day, St. John of Evangelin, St. Mary Madeline, in Holy Week at all Saints Days and in the Christmas Holidays, further that all my just debts shall be paid and do therefore appoint and nominate My Wife and My Son Joseph Van Swearingen Extrs of my Will and this is my testament to do and act as how shall be mencond and my now dwelling house and land there unto belonging also the Councill Rooms and Coffee house and land there unto belonging I give unto my two sons Joseph and Charles Van Sweringen for them and theirs forever but in case of any of them should come to dye then the houses and lands fall to the surviving Brother heretofore named and if both should come to dye then it shall fall to my girls gotten by my now living wife the property equal, that is to be understood that are and were not married or unprovided and shall be unmarried after my decease and in case any of them should so come to be in possession of any of the forenamed Land and houses and shall come to dye without issue then the forenamed land should return again to those that are unmarried and to them that shall have issue in the nature as before but their issue dying shall the said land return again to those that have issue or be unmarried & I do also require that my Wife do also remain in possession of all my estate moveables and unmoveables during her Life that she shall remain unmarried, but in case she should come to Marry that then her Executorship shall cease and My Son Joseph shall only remain the only Executor of my Will and Testament & allow according to Law to my Wife one third of my Estate, but remaining Unmarried she shall continue in full possession of all as if I were myself alive for the good of our children and to hereby Absolutely Debarr all persons not being of my blood to meddle or concern themselves with any of my children or their estate but shall be by the election of My Son Joseph with the advice of Mr. John Hall of St Innegory, the unaged children will be confined with their Brother Joseph he their guardian. I Will that six weeks after my decease my Estate shall be appraised and not undervalued as ordinary in this County is done but to Reall Value, Silver Plate, Brass, Copper, Pewter, Lead in quantity and quality other instead of them to me aforenamed children that shall be unmarried or never were married before Proportionable, But during my Wife shall remain unmarried I do empower hereover all, nothing excepted to be & remain unmolested either by children or Sons-in-law providing she shall not distribute more to the one than the other

& that no portion shall be given to any one of them during My said Wife her life to put herself to want and beggary the rest of my younger children only by the Way of Assistance of Necessity should require in part pay of their porcon or share, but if my Wife should come to dye then those children left unmarried shall remain under the Guardianship of their Brother Joseph to take care of them untill they come to be married but if the said Joseph should do them any injustice which God forbid then the offence shall be referred to Mr. John Hall heretofore named, Mr. Charles Carroll, Mr. Charles Edgerton, Mr. Thomas Goering, or any of them and decition upon the matter shall be desicive, either for the said Joseph to remain their guardian or to make eleceon of any of these aforenamed, instead of him, and their porcon Must and Shall be given one year after they are married if they remain alive and not otherwise, for if any of these children aforenamed comes to dye their porcon shall remain among the Sisters herefore named and not to the Brothers having the Land Except issue if they should be married and have issue before the Expiracon of the year being big with Childe but the aforenamed Brothers shall also have an equal share out of the movables left at the day of My departure but not to spend any share of the Porcons of those Girls that should come to dye but shall be equally divided to the sisters that are Unmarried. And further if my Son Joseph should come to dye and the mother remain alive then shall the executorship remain in her hand in all Power as is Layd before at Large, but if My Wife also should come to dye then the children shall chuse one or more Guardians out of the forenamed Whom are hereby desired to see my Will performed and in testimony that this is my Last Will and Testament have I here unto signed and Sealed with my hand this 25th day of March 1698.

Signed,

1927770

Garrett Van Sweringen

But as I have Sd my Wife to remain Executor if my son Joseph should come to dye is always understood unmarried but if married the children shall chuse Guardians as aforesaid in order to take of the looks of a father-in-law. Further if it doth appear any Gifts given in my lifetime to any of my children the value therof shall be allowed to the other children proportionable. Signed and Sealed Published and Declared by the said Garrett Van Sweringen as last Will and Testament the 25th day of October 1698 in the prescence of us

Nicholas Croutch

Willm Aisquith

Thomas Grunvin

Tom Sinnodd

Febr. 4th. 1698

Then came Mr. William Aisquith and Mr. Thomas Grunwyn two of the witnesses to this Will and made the oath that they did see

Garrett Van Sweringen the Testator, Sign Seal and Publish and Declare they within & above to be his last Will and Testament and the said Garrett was at the doing thereof was of perfect and sound mind and memory.

Kenelm Cheseldyn

March 10, 1698

Then did Nicholas Croutch another of the Witnesses to the within last Will and Testament depose upon this oath as the other witnesses above have disposed.

Kenelm Chesedyn

WILL of Thomas Swearingen ----- son of Garrett Van Swearingen
July 29, 1708

First and foremost I committ my soul to Almighty God my Heavenly Father. Ye made it and to my Savior Jesus Christ to redeem it with whom I hope to be shortly receive pardon for all my sins; 2nd, I committ my body to the earth from where it came and there to be buried in Christian-like manner. My Worldly Debts first being full satisfied and paid. 3rd, I give and bequeath to my eldest son Thomas Swearingen that Plantation he now lives on with an hundred acres of land adjacent to it beginning at the north line of the whole breadth of the land to him and his heirs forever lawfully begotten of his body or to be begotten. 4thly, I give unto my son Van the other hundred acres in the same tract beginning at the south corner tree so running as the deeds make mention to him and heirs forever lawfully begotten of his body or to be begotten. 5thly, I give unto my son Samuel this hundred acres of land and plantation whereon I now live with all apertiances there unto belonging excepting household goods and tobacco in houses on the said plantation to him and to his heirs forever lawfully begotten of his body or to be begotten and never to be sold or changes nor embecilled away on any account but decease. 6thly. I do hereby leave to my well and dearly beloved wife Jane Dane Swearingen all my moveable estate of what the Lord hath been pleased to bestow upon me to her and at her disposal. She being made the whole executor so long as it pleaseth Almighty God. 7thly, my will and desire is thus; If either Van Swearingen or Samuel Swearingen dye before they come to the age of one and twenty then the land of the deceased falls to the younger brother John Swearingen but if it be the will of Almighty God they both live to enjoy their land which I hope may be God's leaves my will and pleasure is my son Thomas is to give my son John ten pounds sterling when he becomes one and twenty years of age and my will and pleasure is likewise that my son Van should give to my son John ten pounds of sterling money of England and my will and pleasure is likewise that my son Samuel shall give to my son John ten pounds sterling money of England when he comes to be one and twenty years of age.

Thomas Swearingen

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us:

his mark
Richard R. Butt

his mark
Ralph Wilson

his mark
Paul Bradford

On the back of the forgoing will was thus endorsed (viz) March 19th, 1710. Then came Richard Butt, Ralph Wilson, and Paul Bradford and made oath upon the Holy Evangelists that they were present at the time when the said will was signed and sealed per Thomas Swearingen and that he owned the said will to be his last will and testament and at the same time he was in perfect sence of memory, sworn before me

Benjamin Berry Dept Com. Pr. George County

This will is recorded at The Maryland Hall of Records
Annapolis, Maryland

Naturalization

Maryland viz:

At a general assembly begun and held at St. Mary's in the province of Maryland. xvi. die Aprillis, xxxvi, Cacily, &c. A.D. 1669

The Hon. Charles Calvert, Esq. Govenour

In the records and proceedings of the same session, among others is the following, viz: To the Right Hon. The Lord Proprietary of the Province of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore.

The humble peticon of Garrett Van Swearingen, Barbara De Barrette, wife of Garrett, Elizabeth and Zacharias Van Swearingen, children of the said Garrett and Barbarah, Isasach De Barrette, Robert Roeland, Jean Jourdain, John Vanhoech, Charles De le Roche and Peter Johnson, all resydents and inhabitants of this Province.

Humbly sheweth unto your Lordship, that your petitioner, Garrett Van Swearingen was born in Roensterdwan, in Holland, under the dominion of the States General of the united provinces, Barbarah De Barrette, in Valegchene, in the Low Countrys belonging to the King of Spayne, Elizabeth Van Swearingen, in Newinstell in Delaware Bay, then under government of the said States General, Zacharias Van Swearingen there also, Isaach De Barrette, at Harlem, in Holland aforesaid, Robert Roelands in Brabrant, within the dominions of the said States General, Charles De le Roche and Jean Jourdain, at Rouan, both within the kingdom of France, John Vanhoech, in the colony of Virginia, under the dominion of his Majesty of Great Britain, and Peter Johnson in the kingdom of Sweden, and your petitioners being now removed into this province, have for diverse years therein inhabited, being invited to come and dwell within this province, by and upon confidence of your Lordship's declaracon of the Second of July, one thousand six hundred and sixty nine, whereby you did empower your govencur from time to time to grant lands to any person of French, Dutch, Spanish, Swedish or other foreign descent, in the same in as ample manner and upon the same terms and provisees as he was thereby impowered to grant land to any person or persons of British or Irish descent, and dureing their said abode within this province you petitioners have been always faithful and obedient unto your Lordship's lawes; yett for that your petitioners are not of British or Irish descent they cannot take benefit of the lawes and customs of this province as others, the good people of this province of British and Irish descent may to their great losse, prejudice and hindrance as also to the deterring of divers others of the foreigne nations aforesaid by coming into this province with useful artificers and handicrafts men. May itt therefore please your Lordship of your abundant goodness and wanted care of and over this province, that itt may be ordained and enacted by the Right Hon. the Lord Proprietary of this province, by and with the advice and consent of the upper and lower house of the present General Assembly, that your Lordship's humble petitioners Garrett Van Swearingen and Barbara his wife ***** etc.....and every one of them shall from hence forth be adjudged, reputed and taken as natural borne people of this province of Maryland and also that they and every one of them shall and may henceforth by the same authority be enabled and adjudged to all intents and purposes able to demand and challenge, ask, have, hold and enjoy any lands, tennements, hereditaments and rents within this province as heir or heirs to any of their ancestors by reason of any descent in fee simple or fee tayle, general and special, or remainder upon any fee tayle, general or special,

or come to them, or any of them by any descent in fee tayle, general or special or remainder upon any estate, tayle as aforesaid or by any other lawfull conveyance, or conveyances whatsoever as if they and every one of them had been borne within our province, or were of British or Irish descent as aforesaid and alsoe that they and every one of them from henceforth may and shall be enabled to prosecute, maintain and avow, justify and defend all manner of accounts; suits, plaints and other demands, whatsoever, as liberally, frankly, freely, fully, lawfully and securely as if they and every one of them had been naturally born within this province of Maryland or were of British or Irish descent and as any other person or persons naturally borne within this province or of British or Irish descent, may anyways lawes lawfully doe any lawes proviso, act or customs of this province or other thing, whatsoever, had, made, or ordayned or done within this province, theron to the contrary thereof in anywise to the contrary not withstanding.

And your peticoners shall in duty bound pray & e.

STATE OF MARYLAND

I hereby certify the aforegoing to be truly copied from Liber. W.H. and L. folios 39 and 40. e of the law records books of the late province of Maryland and remaining of record in the General Court Office for the western shore of the state of the aforesaid.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office this seventeenth day of December 1792, and in the 17th year of the Independence of America.

John Gwinn

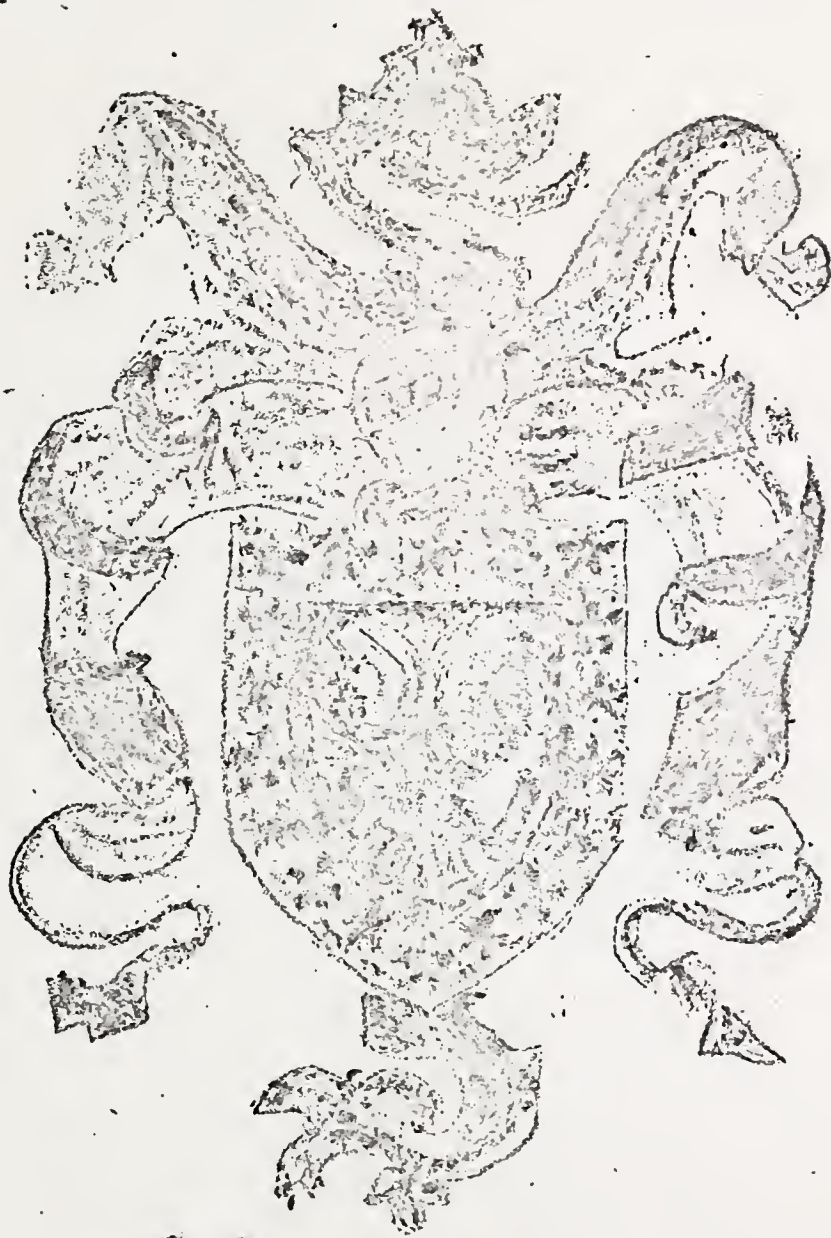
CLK. GEN. CT. West Shore,
State of Maryland

April 1669

An Act for the naturalization of Garrett Van Swearingen and others named above.....all residents and inhabitants within this province

STATE OF MARYLAND, VIZ:

I hereby certify, the aforegoing Act to be truly copied from W.H. folio 127, one of the Law record books of the late province of Maryland, and now remaining of record in the General Court House for the Western Shore of the State aforesaid. etc.....



Dunlop

COAT OF ARMS AMANDA D.



